



De La Salle
School

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11th November 2022

Dear Parent / Carer,

Parental Update 10

A mix of emotions in school this week. Very sad for many of our community as the funeral of Mrs Shields from St Thomas of Canterbury took place on Wednesday. A truly lovely and inspirational teacher and person. We were able to allow several of our students to attend and our choir sang beautifully as part of the service.

Elsewhere, all week we have had special Remembrance Assemblies led by the history department and today we also held our own very moving Remembrance Service, concluding with a minute's silence and the Last Post played by Chloe, flanked by two student cadets, Louisa and Jayden. This week also saw a writer's workshop for some Year 8s, a ski meeting for our Year 9 parents and a really wonderful careers event yesterday for Years 9, 10 and 11 (see below).

Whole School Focus: Your Future Careers Event

Long serving parents will recall that every year we have a Careers Fair that parents and students attend and has always been well received. This year, based upon good practice elsewhere, we held a re-vamped version, called Your Future.

This involved over 50 visitors, representing a wide range of organisations: colleges, public bodies, large and small employers etc setting up display stands in the Sports Hall. Years 9, 10 and 11 were able to spend a whole lesson each going around speaking to our guests. The students were also provided with postcards that they needed to get stamped to ensure that they covered a wide range of sectors and guests.

This was undoubtedly even better than our traditional approach, something echoed by the students and also by the presenters. They felt that the students asked far more questions and showed far greater interest than when they have previously done this with parents. A real success and something we will look to do again. Many of the visitors also asked me to mention to parents how mature and thoughtful the students were! A big thank you to Mrs Scully and Mrs Moran for arranging this.

Academisation

As I have mentioned previously, the Archdiocese of Liverpool has been undertaking a consultation on its Catholic schools academising and forming Catholic Multi-Academy Trusts. This consultation has now closed and the responses are being processed. I understand the time frame is for the Stage 2 proposals to be produced, taking into account the consultation, is early spring.

Though this is relevant for all Catholic schools (primary and secondary), it is particularly relevant for us as we still have an Academy Order against the school (stating we must academise). At the same time, the Religious Order schools across the country, of which we, as a Lasallian School, are one, are also exploring the creation of their own Catholic MATs. The time-scale for this is similar to that of the Archdiocese.

You can perform miracles by touching the hearts of those entrusted to your care.

As a result of our existing Academy Order from 2016, it isn't a question of 'if' we academise, but more questions of 'when and with whom?' Please be assured that the school, our Governors and our Trustees will be working to ensure that, whatever the future looks like, our position as a distinctly Lasallian school, will be paramount. I will ensure to keep you as updated as possible as the academisation agenda develops over the coming months.

Attendance

Since September:

- School attendance has dipped further this week to: **92.07%**
- National Secondary Attendance is: **92.5%**

It was disappointing to see our attendance fall again this week after what appeared a healthy start post-half term. It is important we all continue to work hard to stop the decline and see a rise again in attendance.

Building Work

This week has mostly involved internal work as the now watertight structure has its first fix (I think that is the phrase). This means, visually, that progress is harder to spot, but the team are clearly very busy and, even better, the noisiest of tools seem to have been put away. I have tried to capture some images on twitter, though not the most exciting!

Christmas Production

We are delighted to announce that tickets are now available for our Christmas Show - Days Like These: A Rock and Roll Musical Extravaganza, which promises to be entertaining and uplifting for all the family. Come and escape the cold, dreary nights and join us for a night (or two!) on Wednesday 14th December and Thursday 15th December. Doors open at 6:30pm for a 7:00pm start. Tickets are for sale on ParentMail.

Forthcoming Events (dates in **bold** indicate a change to normal finish times)

I have tried to list all the key events running up to the start of January. Some are additions to the document I sent at the start of the year as more events are added.

W/B Mon 14th: Year 8 Assessment window opens and Year 10 continues

Mon 14th: Football Beyond Borders (Year 8)

Thu 17th: Shakespeare Schools Festival (25 Year 7 and 8 students)

W/B Mon 21st: Year 8 assessment window continues

Wed 23rd: Governors Quality of Education Committee (5:00pm)

Wed 23rd: Music Showcase Concert

Mon 28th: Year 11 Geography Field Trip to Liverpool (100 students)

Mon 28th: Football Beyond Borders (Year 8)

Wed 30th: Year 8 Retreat Number 1 (on site)

Thur 1st: Year 8 Retreat number 2 (on site)

Fri 2nd Dec: INSET Day – school closed to students

Wed 7th Dec: Full Governors Meeting (5:00pm)

Thu 8th: Year 8 Retreat number 3 (on site)

Fri 9th: Year 8 retreat number 4 (on site)

Mon 12th: Football Beyond Borders (Year 8)

Tue 13th: School Show Night 1 (details tbc)

Wed 14th: School Show Night 2 (details tbc)

Thu 15th: School Show Night 3 (details tbc)

Fri 16th: Pensioners Christmas party (2-4.30pm)

Wed 21st: School Closes 12.10pm

Christmas Holidays

Wed 4th Jan: School re-opens (normal time)

Thu 12th: Year 11 Parents' Eve (compressed day – school closes at 1.30pm)

Fri 13th: PSHCE lesson 3

And finally...

I was asked recently about why our school has never been shortlisted for any of the Educate Magazine Awards. The answer is simple, we have never nominated ourselves. The way it works is that schools simply nominate themselves in any category and, as it is largely a Liverpool-based magazine, we have never really considered it.

In my previous school, Notre Dame in Everton, we regularly put ourselves forward for many of these awards, which include a lovely lavish black-tie dinner in a posh venue. Our greatest success was when I completed the nomination for Notre Dame being Inspirational Secondary School of the Year (or something similar to that). Sadly, I was unable to attend to collect the award, but Mrs R's school was also there and she offered to pick it up afterwards if we won.

On the night, Mrs R's school was unsuccessful with their award but, inspired by the whole event and clearly keen to win something, when Notre Dame was announced as the winner, all Mrs R's school staff went up (like the cast of Coronations Street at the TV awards) to collect the Notre Dame Award. For weeks their group photo kept appearing in Educate Magazine as the Inspirational Secondary School of the Year!

Have a good weekend,

Andrew Rannard

Headteacher

CAREERS NEWSLETTER



This newsletter is a collation of all the opportunities we have heard about from employers and universities. Please use the links included to read more information and apply to anything you are interested in. Links are underlined.

OPPORTUNITIES



PwC's Flying Start degree programmes in Accounting, Business Management and Technology are open for applications. On these programmes, you can earn a salary and fast-track your career while studying for your chosen subject. At PwC we want our people to feel challenged, to grow, and to flourish. You will have the opportunity to make an impact and make a difference to our clients from day one. Find out more about our programmes [here](#), or sign up to our upcoming events [here](#).



Are you considering a career in publishing? The Society of Young Publishers are pleased to present Inside Publishing, the podcast series interviewing industry experts on everything publishing. You can listen [here](#).



Illustration is another creative career that you may wish to consider. [Here](#) is free library of illustration resources to help you on your way to monetizing your skills.



Check out [WePresent](#), a hub of inspiring stories from various creative types, talking about their career paths, inspirations and advice.



Last week was Green Careers Week. You may be wondering how the creative industries are helping us to move towards net zero. [This report](#) finds that across all sub-sectors including architecture, design, fashion, film, galleries, games design, museums, music and publishing, the creative industries are innovating in production, design and supply.

JOB OF THE WEEK



Agricultural engineers build, service and repair agricultural, horticultural and forestry machinery and equipment. You can earn £25,000 to £45,000 per year and expect to work 39 to 41 a week. There will be 3.4% more Agricultural engineer jobs in 2026.

[Click here to read more.](#)

LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION FACT

Demand for jobs that require skills in artificial intelligence and machine learning is estimated to rise by 40% over the next five years - but the UK risks falling behind if schools aren't given the resources needed to teach them.

[Source](#)

If you have any questions or need support, please contact moranh@delasalleschool.org.uk

CAREERS NEWSLETTER



OPPORTUNITIES

Discover everything you need to know about Lloyds Banking Group during an interactive event on 13th December 2022 at 6.30 - 7.15 pm. During the session, you will hear from current apprentices, learn organisation insights (including what skill sets Lloyds are looking for, their culture and values, how they want to build the bank of the future and where an apprenticeship with Lloyds could take you) as well as discovering apprenticeship opportunities PLUS a Q&A session, where you'll be able to ask questions directly to their recruitment teams. Book your place [here](#).

LLOYDS
BANKING GROUP



Here is a report we thought you might find interesting: [Ten possible jobs of the future - and why Britain may struggle to fill them](#)

Every 90 seconds a British Airways aircraft takes off from somewhere around the world. Ever wondered what it's like to be part of that excitement - the magic that connects Britain to the world and the world to Britain? Check out British Airways brand new website, [SpeedBird-Z](#). You can get mentorship support, take part in modules and help with applications for aviation roles.

Looking for inspiration from an industry expert? Want to grow your network? Or maybe practice your interview skills? [Book a 30-minute 1-1 session as a member of Apprentice Nation](#) for just 20 credits (reimbursed automatically!). Scroll to find out how to book and who you can meet.

UK University Search Fairs happen all over the UK, as well as online. You can meet universities and apprenticeship employers, get support to decide your future pathway and advice on your application. Look at dates and locations [here](#).

[StudentStream](#) brings together video content featuring vital advice, help and expert knowledge from universities and colleges across the UK.

APPRENTICE
NATION

UK university
search

Student
stream

EMPLOYER SPOTLIGHT



"DHL Supply Chain is an essential part of everyday life ensuring that our customers get the right goods at the right time. We are a World Leader in Supply Chain logistics and hire apprentices in a range of job roles to support the development of our business."

You can read more about DHL jobs [here](#) and their student programmes [here](#).

UNI SPOTLIGHT

UoN
University of
Northampton

"We'll support you every step of the way whichever course you choose - providing you with first-class teaching, modern facilities, impressive accommodation and great learning."

You can read more about University of Nottingham courses [here](#).

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